IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown below.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of distinguishing between an input and [[or]] output signal on a bi-directional pin of a model of a hardware circuit, comprising the steps of:

for a bi-directional pin of said model, applying signals to said pin at a reduced drive strength such that a driven signal on said pin will be superimposed over the applied signal; and

measuring comparing the drive strength of the signal on the bi-directional pin and responsive to said measurement comparison determining whether the bi-directional pin is an input or output.

2.   (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of providing an output to indicate if the bi-directional pin is an input or an output.

3.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1 wherein said model is a digital model.

4.   (Original) A method according to claim 3 wherein said digital model is a HDL model.

5.   (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the HDL model utilizes the standard HDL values and a strong signal on the bi-directional pin is replaced by a Z in said applying step.

6.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein any output from said model has a drive strength greater than said reduced drive strength.

7.   (Currently Amended) A system for distinguishing between an input [[or]] and output signal on a bi-directional pin of a model of a hardware circuit, said system comprising:

means for applying signals to a bi-directional pin of said model at a reduced drive strength such that a driven signal on said pin will be super imposed over the applied signal; and

means for ~~comparing~~ <u>measuring</u> the drive strength <u>of the signal</u> on the bi-directional pin and responsive to said measurement ~~comparison~~ determining whether the bi-directional pin is an input or output.

8.   (Original) A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein said system is a computer system.

9.   (Previously Presented) A computer program comprising program code that, when executed on a computer, perform any of the steps of any of claims 1 to 6.